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UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

MAY 1 6 2006

U.S. PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE BOARD OF PATENT APPEALS AND INTERFERENCES

BEFORE THE BOARD OF PATENT APPEALS AND INTERFERENCES

Ex parte YUICHI SHIROTA, HISASHI TANAKA, HIROSHI NONOYAMA, KAZUSHI SHIKATA, YUKIO UEMURA, HIKARU SUGI and MANABU MIYATA

> Appeal No. 2006-0665 Application 09/531,531

> > COMMUNICATION

An ORDER REMANDING TO EXAMINER mailed February 1, 2006 requested that the examiner provide a certified English translation of the Japanese reference to Valeu, JP6-156,049, dated June 3, 1994, which was relied upon by the examiner in his rejection of the claims. It is noted that the certified English translation has now been furnished. Accordingly, a new appeal number will be issued and the case will be assigned in due course.

> BOARD OF PATENT APPEALS AND INTERFERENCES

Deputy Chief Appeal Administrator

(571) 272-9797

DS:psb

Application 09/531,531

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